When the PC is off or in a low power state, the user may power up using the PDA power on button **104** that boots the PC very quickly compared to the PC boot up process. The instant Internet software application including the pre-selected web materials instructs the system to the pre-selected web sites and downloads the selected materials if Internet access to the web site is available. The LCD module **314** may display the information downloaded from the various web sites.

[**0048**] The required information to be downloaded from the web site may also be preset in the web site directly. In this case, an identification and authentication process may be required for the web site to properly identify a user. This could be done automatically between the web site and the application software, or by using security devices such as smart cards if highly confidential information is desired. Since the PC accesses the Internet for only a very short period of time in this PDA mode access instance, the non-essential PC components can be automatically turned off after information from the web site is downloaded to conserve power. However, the LCD module **314** may still have power to display the downloaded information which is stored in its internal memory buffer until the system wakes up again after receiving a wake up signal from system wake up control logic **310**. Once the PC is woken up, new information from web sites may be downloaded and updated into the internal memory buffer of the LCD module **314**.

[**0049**] A similar concept may also be applied to other applications such as downloading emails and instant messages. Application software can also program internal registers of the IC **302** to wake up the PC periodically to get the latest information, emails, or messages.

[**0050**] The audio interface **312** can also be used to provide text-to-voice capability so that end users can listen to emails, messages, or news data without looking into the LCD module **314**.

[**0051**] 2. Wireless Internet Access

[**0052**] A PC consistent with the invention in PDA mode can also deploy wireless applications such as Bluetooth or 802.11 to access other devices or networks. The PC can boot up in the PDA mode and a wireless internet access software application may enable a user to download emails from a local file server through a wireless Local Area Network (LAN) or the Internet. The user may then use the function keys **306** to print out the emails from a wireless printer.

[**0053**] 3. Scheduling Applications

[**0054**] Most PDAs and PCs have a scheduling application that may also be used to provide reminders to a user about previously scheduled events or meetings. The reminder may be an alert message or an audible sound alerting the user that the event or meeting is coming up. However, for such reminder applications to properly function in a traditional PC, the PC has to be kept ON to keep the reminder feature functional. When the PC is a laptop, it would be impractical for battery life to keep the laptop ON solely for this function due to the limited battery capacity. In desktop PCs keeping the desktop on solely for this reminder function would be a drain on power consumption and may also cause an annoying noise from cooling fans of the desktop PC.

[**0055**] Advantageously, scheduling information including dates and times for reminders to issue may be preloaded into the IC **402** and stored in the memory **412** or **414** of the IC **402**. As such, the PC may in a deep sleep mode. Internal clock and timer logic **422** may be used to keep track of the date and time when the system is off or in a low power mode. When the scheduled time for a reminder is reached, the IC **402** can generate an audible tone or beep through the audio subsystem **320** or the IC **402** can wake up the system and deploy the scheduling software in PC mode. As such, an IC **402** consistent with the invention can provide an efficient way to use a scheduling software application. This is especially true for users who travel with a laptop.

[**0056**] 4. Address Book Applications

[**0057**] Most PDAs provide contact information or address book software applications enabling a user to store people's contact information such as name, address, phone number, email, etc. A PC having a PDA mode consistent with the invention provides an easy interface for this type of application. When a user wishes to access or find any of the contact information, the user may turn on the PC in PDA mode, e.g., by activating the PDA power on button **104**. Function keys **306** may then be used to ask for the contact information database. Then, the system can load the contact information database into the PC's system memory **206** and let the user search through the database. The system power can be shut down when the search is complete. Since the IC **302** does not need to store any contact information directly, it reduces the die size and cost of the chip. Accordingly, a PC consistent with the invention provides a cost effective solution enabling fast searching of contact information.

[**0058**] 5. Storage Hub for Digital Devices

[**0059**] A variety of digital devices such as digital cameras, digital camcorders, portable music players, digital recorders, or the like may store digital data on a variety of storage devices such as flash media cards. Some types of flash media cards include SmartMedia™, CompactFlash™, and Memory Stick® cards. When the flash media card is fill, the user typically either removes the full flash media card and inserts a new empty flash media card, or may download the data to an electronic device, e.g., PC, to provide extra room for additional data. Using a PC consistent with this invention, a user may boot up the PC in PDA mode by either using the PDA power up button **104** or the PDA mode may automatically be boot up by coupling the digital device to the PC for downloading.

[**0060**] The user may then utilize a storage software application to select an import function to import the digital data from the digital device to a mass storage device. The mass storage device may be the hard disk drive **240** of the PC or a variety of other storage devices coupled to the PC via a local area network (LAN) or storage area network (SAN). The status of the import function may be displayed on the LCD module **314**. After the data is imported from the digital device, the user may erase the associated storage device or flash media card for the next usage. As such, the storage software application provides a simple and easy interface for end users to import digital data without waiting for a long boot up time in PC mode. It also enables the end user to have access to large PC mass storage devices so that the user can avoid paying for additional digital device storage devices or flash media cards. For example, if the digital device is a digital camera, a user can quickly download digital images stored on the digital camera's flash media card to the PC in